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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

This Journal is published on the 1st of every month.

We would request those who send us country newspapers, wishing us to read particular paragraphs, to mark the passage, by cutting a slit in the paper near it.

The late hour at which Advertisements reach us, interferes much with their proper classification.

Colored Envelopes *are sent to all Subscribers whose payment in advance is exhausted. The paper will be discontinued where the Subscriber neglects to renew. We again remind those who are disappointed in getting back numbers, that only the music pages are stereotyped, and of the rest of the paper, only sufficient are printed to supply the current sale.*

We cannot undertake to return offered contributions; the authors, therefore, will do well to retain copies.

H. P. C., Frome.—*Your question has been often mooted; but with no satisfactory solution. A madrigal has been defined as a choral glee; and the origin of the word "glee" still remains uncertain. Todd's edition of Johnson's Dictionary derives the word "glee" from the Saxon term, meaning* music.

Llansawell.—*The subject of your communication is under consideration; but, we fear, it will prove to be impracticable.*

A.B.—*We have repeatedly expressed our objection to recommend any particular musical works of instruction.*

Brief Chronicle of the last Month.

WELLS (Norfolk).—The Choral Society, under the direction of Mr. J. Buxton, gave their second Concert on the 30th April. The selection comprised portions of Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Handel's *Messiah*, and *Judas Maccabæus*, and some choice secular compositions. Mr. Bray, of Lynn, played a fantasia on the violin; and Mr. Wall, of the Lynn Harmonic Union, presided at the harmonium and pianoforte.

PRESTON.—The Choral Society gave a performance of Mendelssohn's *St. Paul*, on the 8th May. Miss Banks, Mrs. Winterbottom, Mr. Perring, and Mr. Wyndham Winn, were the principal vocalists; and Mr. Fawcett was the conductor.

BATH.—A singing-class has been established in connection with the congregation at Argyle Chapel, on the Mainzerian system, conducted by Mr. W. H. Cooke, organist of the chapel.

BIRMINGHAM.—The Amateur Harmonic Association now numbers 160 members, and is engaged in the rehearsal of Mendelssohn's *St. Paul*, and selections from Novello's Part-Song Book. Mr. A. J. Sutton is the conductor. The general meetings of the association for practice, at which every member is expected to be present, are held fortnightly; but in the intervening weeks, special rehearsals are held, at which only those members attend who are desirous of such additional practice, or who are less skilled in the art of reading music. We name this arrangement, as it may possibly be suggestive to other societies.

ROCHFORD (Essex).—A singing-class, in connection with the Independent Chapel, formed here about eighteen months ago, and named the Rochford Chorale Society, continues to progress favorably. Several pieces from the first masters are fairly sung. An active part is taken by the ladies to promote its success; and many a pleasant hour is passed in the quiet town of Rochford in this delightful pursuit.

MELBOURNE.—We are happy to report that the Philharmonic Society is flourishing most prosperously.

LIMEHOUSE.—The last Concert of the Choral Society's season took place on the 25th April; when the principal feature of the evening was the presentation of a testimonial to Mr. Thos. H. Hodd, as a mark of personal esteem from the members of the society, and of the sense they entertained of his efficient and disinterested labours as conductor of the society during the whole period of its existence. The testimonial consisted of handsomely-bound folio full-score copies of Haydn's *Creation*, Handel's *Messiah*, *Samson*, *Israel in Egypt*, *Saul*, *Judas Maccabæus*, *Joshua*, &c., forming nine volumes in all. On the inside of the cover of each volume was affixed a red morocco label, bearing in golden letters a suitable inscription. Mr. Hodd returned thanks, and concluded by assuring the society that while he possessed health, strength, and opportunity, his efforts to promote the best interests of the society should not flag. After the presentation, a selection from Mozart's 12th Mass was performed; and the audience separated, highly gratified by what they had witnessed and heard.

HEARTSHILL (Staffordshire).—A singing-class, for the Working-men's Association, has been formed, under the instruction of Mr. Arthur A. Evans, choir-master of Trentham.

MR. LANGTON WILLIAMS' Annual Concert took place at the Music Hall, Store Street, on the 5th May, and was well attended. The vocalists were Miss Poole, Miss Lizzy Stuart, Miss Julia Bleaden, Miss Lizzy Harris, Miss Lascelles, Miss E. L. Williams (the Welsh Nightingale), Mr. Miranda, Mr. E. L. Hime, Mr. Henry Morgan, and Mr. Frank Bodda. Violin, Mr. H. Blagrove; flute, Mr. Richardson. Conductors, Mr. F. Braine and Mr. Langton Williams.

SOUTH LONDON HARMONIC SOCIETY.—A vocal and instrumental Concert was given on the 7th May; upon which occasion a silver salver and goblet, richly chased, were presented to Mr. Williams, the conductor. This is the seventh public testimonial presented to that gentleman, by various societies, for his valuable services in connection with music.

SUNDERLAND.—A society for the study and practice of oratorio music has at length been established here, under the designation of the Sunderland Sacred Harmonic Society. On the second night, the roll numbered 137 members. Conductor, Mr. Beswick; secretaries, Messrs. Septimus Bourne and J. Pearson.

CHELTENHAM.—Mr. Andrews, lessee of the Assembly Rooms, recently gave his concluding Concert for the season. The vocalists were Miss Milner, Mrs. Paget, Mr. Hunt, and Mr. Paget. Mr. H. C. Cooper, violin; Signora Montignani, pianoforte; and Mr. J. O. Smith, conductor.

CANTERBURY.—Mr. Longhurst gave his grand Annual Concert on the 12th May; when, to use the words of one of the local papers, the "bright particular star" of the night was Madame Clara Novello. The performance—the same authority adds,—gave great satisfaction to "perhaps the largest and most distinguished assemblage ever remembered in this city."

CAMBERWELL.—A class for the practice of the Choral Service meets every Thursday evening, at Emmanuel Church, on the conclusion of Divine Service, under the direction of the organist, Mr. A. Cocking. Through the liberality of some members of the congregation, a choral fund has been established. The music at present in use is Novello's 169 Psalm and Hymn Tunes, and Jackson's Morning, and King's Evening Service in F, &c.

BIRMINGHAM.—The Festival Choral Society announce a performance of Handel's *Judas Maccabæus*, on the 5th instant.

Cheltenham.—The Amateur Sacred Harmonic Society gave their first public rehearsal at the Assembly Rooms on the 7th May. The programme consisted of selections from Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Haydn's *Creation*, and Handel's *Judas Maccabæus*. The principal performers were Mrs. Powell, Miss Tovey, and Mr. Hunt. Mr. W. E. Jarrett presided at the piano, and Mr. Pett conducted.

Atcham (Shropshire).—An amateur performance of Sacred Music took place on the 21st April, in aid of the widows and families of deceased workmen. The principal vocalists were Mrs. John Hayward, Misses Reynolds, Miss Wight, and Mr. G. Mainwaring. Instrumentalists:—violin, Mr. Henry Hayward; leader, Mr. C. Roden; pianoforte, Mr. T. Hayward; accompanyist, Mr. John Hayward; conductor, Mr. M. Palmer.

Abergavenny.—Mr. F. M. Ward's Concert took place on the 14th April; on which occasion two pupils of Mr. Ward (Mrs. Ward and Miss East) made their *debut*. The lay-clerks of Hereford Cathedral, and several members of the choral body, rendered their assistance; and the performance gave general satisfaction.

Royal Society of Musicians.—The Annual Benefit Concert took place in Exeter Hall on the 16th May; when Handel's oratorio of the *Messiah* was performed, conducted by Mr. Costa. Madame Clara Novello, Madame Viardot Garcia, Madame Rudersdorff, Madame Weiss, Miss Dolby, Herr Reichardt, and Messrs. Donald King, Thomas, and Weiss, and Herr Formes, were the principal vocal performers.

Miss Dolby and Mr. Lindsay Sloper's Annual Morning Concert took place on the 9th May, at the Hanover Square Rooms. Madame Clara Novello, Miss Dolby, Miss Amy Dolby, Miss Sherrington, and Mr. Sims Reeves, were the vocalists; Mr. Lindsay Sloper, M. Sainton, M.M. Francois and Charles Doppler, were the solo instrumentalists.

Mr. Charles Halle's Pianoforte Recital took place on the 8th May, at 47, Bryanstone Square; when pieces from Bach, Beethoven, Weber, Mendelssohn, Chopin, and St. Heller, formed the programme.

Signor and Madame Ferrari's Annual Concert took place on the evening of May 9th. The concert-givers, with Miss Dolby and Herr Reichardt, were the vocalists; and Madame Clara Schumann, Mr. George Russell, Herr Oberthür, and Signor Giulio Regondi, were the instrumentalists.

Madame Puzzi's Annual Grand Morning Concert took place on the 19th May. The bill of fare comprised, as usual, the majority of vocal and instrumental celebrities now in London.

Buckingham Palace.—A State Concert was given by Her Majesty on the 30th April; when Madame Clara Novello, Madame Bosio, Madame Viardot, Madame Didiée, Signor Gardoni, Mr. Sims Reeves, Signor Ronconi, and Herr Formes, had the honor of singing. Mr. Costa was at the pianoforte.

Scuola di Bel Canto.—The directors, Signor Alberto Raudegger, and Mr. Francesco Berger, gave their fourth Soirée Musicale on the 20th May, at Blagrove's Concert Rooms.

Mr. Sterndale Bennett's Soirees.—The second this season occurred on the 8th May; when Madame Clara Schumann's playing gave additional interest to the refined entertainment constantly supplied at these performances.

Chipping Norton.—The Choral Society recently established here, gave their first Concert on the 1st May. It is highly gratifying to the Society that they gave perfect satisfaction to a numerous and respectable audience.

Hatcham.—The Singing Society held their first meeting on the 14th May; and will continue to meet for practice and elementary music, under the direction of Mr. H. Hall, every Wednesday evening, at eight o'clock.

St. Martin's Hall.—A performance of Rossini's *Stabat Mater*, and Mendelssohn's *Hymn of Praise*, was given, under the direction of Mr. John Hullah, on the 21st May. Madame Clara Novello—who originally sang the soprano part of Rossini's fine work, when it was performed at Bologna, under the superintendence of the great Maestro himself—was the prima donna on the present occasion. Her singing of that magnificent aria, the "Inflammatus," is supreme. It was re-demanded with enthusiasm; as was her duet with Miss Dolby, "Quis est homo."

Mr. W. J. Cusins's Soirée Musicale took place on the 28th May. It was a treat of pianoforte music; Mr. Sterndale Bennett and the concert-giver performing some choice pieces from the great masters.

North Shields.—A Tea-party and Concert were given on the 12th May, under the direction of Mr. Greenwell, who presided at the pianoforte.

May-day Festival.—An entertainment, under this pleasant title, was given by the members of the "Egham Music Class;" when part-songs, madrigals, glees, &c., were performed, under the superintendence of Mr. S. Smith, organist of Egham. The evening concluded with dancing.

The Cither.—The Duke Maximilian of Bavaria has presented a gold medal to Herr Carl A. Laue, author of the English "Cither-Method," dedicated to his Serene Highness, who is an accomplished performer on this new and elegant instrument.

Eunotal Portfolio.—Mr. J. Woolnough has invented a new and improved portfolio for music, periodicals, manuscripts, &c., which is both elegant in appearance and well adapted for use. It has a solid back, fitted up with elastic cords; and is made in various convenient sizes.

Portsmouth.—The Musical Association gave their last Concert for the season on the 22nd May, to an audience highly delighted with the singing of Miss Eliza Hughes and Mr. R. Wyatt.

Spelsbury (Oxon.)—The members of the Church Choir, under the direction of Mr. J. Curwood, gave their fourth Concert in the Boys' School-room belonging to Viscount Dillon, on the 1st May, under and in the presence of distinguished patronage. The selection on this occasion was entirely secular; and comprised some ancient and modern songs, glees, and madrigals, which gained the compliments of a crowded audience.

Westminster and Pimlico.—The Amateur Choral Society gave their second performance of sacred and secular music on the 27th May, under the direction of Mr. J. Hallett Sheppard.

Dawley (Shropshire).—A miscellaneous Concert of vocal and instrumental music was given on the 19th May, by the members of the Coalbrookdale Music Class, under the leadership of Mr. C. Roden. Mr. T. Watkiss presided at the pianoforte.

Philharmonic Concerts.—The programme of the fourth Concert was rich in musical attraction. Mozart's noble symphony, surnamed the "Jupiter;" Spohr's in D minor; Beethoven's pianoforte concerto in G; Mendelssohn's overture to *Midsummer Night's Dream;* Beethoven's to *Fidelio;* a violoncello concerto by Haydn; a grand aria by Glück; and another by Cimarosa. Madame Viardot's energy of expression finds great scope in Armida's song; and Madame Clara Novello's impassioned delivery of the fine dramatic scena, "Deh, parlate!" is a treat of the highest kind. The two ladies sang together Rossini's beautiful duet, "Quis est homo," from the *Stabat Mater*.

Uxbridge.—The Choral Society gave their thirteenth entertainment on the 5th May. The members were assisted by the Misses Wells, and Miss A'Lellie West, from the London and Brighton concerts, and by talent from the Sacred Harmonic Society, London. The programme consisted of selections of sacred music Mr. J. T. Birch presided at the harmonium; and Mr. W. H. Birch at the pianoforte.

Fulford.—Mr. Lambert, of the York Cathedral Choir, presided at the opening of the instrument lately supplied by Mr. Whitehead, organ-builder, to the chapel here, on the 11th May.

Beaumont Institution.—A Concert took place on the 14th May, for the benefit of Mr. Ivimey, a teacher of singing, residing at Bow. A quintett band, aided by Mr. Card and his son (flutes) executed several pieces. Madame Rainaldi and Madame Correlli sang both in Italian and English. A young *débutante*, Miss Amelia Crawley (pupil of Mr. Ivimey) gave "Hush! ye pretty warbling," from *Acis and Galatea*, with good effect. Mr. Dando played a solo, by De Beriot, in excellent style.

Miss Stabbach's Annual Concert took place at the Hanover Square Rooms, on Tuesday, the 27th May, and was well attended. The vocalists were Madame Viardot, Miss Stabbach, Herr Reichardt, and Mr. Weiss. Instrumentalists—Miss A. Goddard, Herr Deichmann, Mons. Paque, Signor Regondi, and Herr Oberthür. Conductors, Mr. Frank Mori and Mr. Francesco Berger.

Kennington.—The Choral Union, established a few months ago, gave their first performance on the 16th May, under the direction of Mr. James Higgs, organist of St. Mark's. The creditable rendering of the selection of vocal music (taken entirely from Novello's *Musical Times* and Part-Song Book), gave great satisfaction to a numerous audience; and Miss Stirling's prize part-song, "Al among the Barley," was encored.

Newcastle-on-Tyne.—A full Choral Service was given at St. Nicholas on Thursday, the 15th May, by the united choirs of the town, numbering about 60 well-trained voices, under the able direction of Dr. Ions, who presided at the organ. The occasion being the anniversary meeting o the Society for the promotion of Church Music, Tallis' responses were sung, and the Service was Dr. Boyce in A

Preston.—Mendelssohn's *St. Paul* was given here on the 8th May, in a very able manner. The vocalists were Miss Banks, Mrs. Winterbottom, Mr. Perring, and Mr. Winn.

Sunderland.—Full Cathedral Service, for the first time in this town, was performed on the 22nd May, in St. Thomas' Episcopal Church; and in a style which reflects great credit on the organist and choir.

Chislehurst.—On the 8th of May, the Chislehurst Choral Society gave an excellent concert, under the direction of Mr. E. Griffiths. The attendance was very numerous, and the singing very effective. A part-song, composed by Mr. Griffiths, and called "The Voices of Nature," elicited particular approbation. It has since been published. The only drawback to the concert was the deficiency of room to accommodate the audience.

Miss Messent and Mr. Brinley Richards gave an evening concert at Willis's Rooms on 27th May. Principal vocal performers—Miss Messent, Madame Clara Novello, and Miss Dolby; Frederick Von der Osten, from Leipsic (first appearance), Messrs. Elliott Galer, Frank Bodda, and Weiss. The instrumentalists—Messrs. Molique, Piatti, and Brinley Richards. The concert was well attended, and gave full satisfaction.

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